

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS:

The Examiner's Office Action mailed April 4, 2007 has been carefully reviewed. Reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Examiner rejected Claims 1-3, 7, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brownlee (6,065,532), Claims 1-3, 4, 7, 8, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Harth et al (6,006,702), and Claims 5 and 10 under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harth et al (6,006,702) in view of Hardtke (4,951,902).

Examiner objected to Claims 6 and 11 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, stating that Claims 6 and 11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have amended Claim 1 to include all the limitations of allowable Claim 6 and any intervening claims, thereby placing Claim 1 in condition for allowance. Accordingly Claims 2-4, by virtue of their dependence on allowable Claim 1, are also in condition for allowance. As all the limitations of allowable Claim 6 and intervening Claim 5 have been included in amended base Claim 1, Claims 5 and 6 have been canceled.

Applicants have also amended Claim 7 to include all the limitations of allowable Claim 11 and any intervening claims, thereby placing Claim 7 in condition for allowance. Accordingly Claims 8 and 9, by virtue of their dependence on allowable Claim 7, are also in

AMENDMENT

Patent Application Serial No. 10/802,688

Reply to Office Action of April 4, 2007

Attorney Docket No.: Case 7071

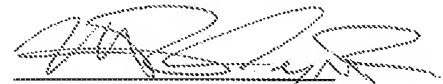
condition for allowance. As all the limitations of allowable Claim 11 and intervening Claim 10 have been included in amended base Claim 7, Claims 10 and 11 have been canceled.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-4, and 7-9, as presented, are patentably distinct and non-obvious over the prior art references, taken separately or in combination. Applicant has endeavored to make the foregoing response sufficiently complete to permit prompt, favorable action on the subject patent application. In the event the Examiner believes, after consideration of this response, that the prosecution of the subject patent application would be expedited by an interview, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (330) 860-6605.

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The Babcock & Wilcox Company
Patent Department
P.O. Box 351
20 South Van Buren Avenue
Barberton, Ohio 44203

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Seymour
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 54,436